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the state of the earth (magnetic and gravitational). The time of completing a revolution about the earth is called an *anomalistic period* and varies from 25 to 29 days, average  $27\frac{1}{2}$  days. The moon's phases form the *synodic period* of a little more than 29 days. (The anomalistic period is the same as that called a physiological month, of four weeks or 28 days, by the reviewer, in the article on dreams noted above.) Koster takes the week of 7 days as the anomalistic number and using it as a divisor ascertained the fact that nearly all periods observed in periodic diseases, no matter of what length, are compounded of various multiples of this number of days. It is unfortunate that the number is so small, because a variation of only three days is sufficient to nullify the generalization. The reviewer has hinted in the article on dreams that the periods may vary, being shortened and lengthened by different causes; this swing of a monthly period may be as great as seven days, *i. e.*, menstruation in place of coming on the 28th day may be delayed as much as a week. Such variations are probably present in the majority of cases cited by Koster and explain the following statistics. Out of 942 waves recorded, 129 coincide with the anomalistic period, 335 fall one day out of the way (exacerbations beginning at night often recorded next day); 306 fall two days out and 172 fall three days out. An inspection of Koster's tables shows that in the main the anomalistic law governs, but from the nature of the case the method of summation presented in the statistics as just recorded, is hardly a fair showing for the theory and does not weigh much in favor of the real facts. Koster has failed to realize that these periods are not related to the astronomical facts as the tides are, but are independent associations obscured by many secondary reactions of living matter. Darwin has sought to account for the menstrual period by the effect of the tides upon our distant aquatic ancestors, but there is no need of going so far away. The effect of the moon's phases and also of sabbatical observance acting through the mind upon the body, or else as favoring certain sexual activities is sufficient in itself to account for the existence of the period. That meteorological conditions act on the body is not denied, but they are in no sense to be taken as producing inevitable effects. Association can overrule a purely physical effect upon the body. There are marked diurnal waves of fever exacerbation and of the temperature in normal cases as from 7-10 A. M. and 3-6 P. M., but here also are great individual variations. The time of perigee or apogee is recognized as peculiarly critical especially in mental diseases. Dr. Solviette has called attention (from seven years observation) to the parallel variations of the earth's magnetism and of psychic disturbance. The spirits of some people rise and fall with the state of the barometer and it is said that bees indicate a coming storm even more certainly than that instrument. Suicides are most frequent near the summer solstice, (compare the curve indicating the reproductive activities). Observations of the same data are needed for the southern hemisphere to show whether this is an effect of heat or of the relative distance of the sun, but we may venture to prophesy that the position of the sun will be found of no importance except as it affects temperature. The eleven year periodicity of the sun spots is known to affect the earth's magnetism and its climate. A study of the movements of civilization is needed to ascertain to what extent this period is represented in biology. Another period is presented by the alternation of quadrature and syzygy of sun and moon with our planet. Here is a field for considerable statistical study.

At this point we may conveniently consider:

*Zusammenhang der Geschlechtskrankheiten mit nervösen Leiden und die Castration bei Neurosen.* HEGAR. Stuttgart, 1885.

Castration does not always eradicate sexual feelings. Neuroses that begin with puberty are related to the periods in some definite way

either occurring during menstruation or in the interval or else during pregnancy only, and are dependent upon the sympathy between all the organs of the body as excited by the pathological changes occurring in the reproductive organs. Pressure upon the ovaries can produce or can stop convulsions. Here we may refer the reader to certain aspects of hypnotism and the so called "hypnogenic zones." Dr. McKenzie has shown that nasal disease is dependent on genital irritation. The deductions are plain, viz.: that the reproductive organs are in nervous connection with various parts of the body, and hypnotism which has received much light from comparison with the phenomena of normal sleep, ought also to be viewed from the sexual standpoint. The school of hypnotists (Nancy) that interprets the phenomena as forms of true sleep, also state that men are as susceptible as women. The belief of the mesmerists that women are the more susceptible may in part be explained by their methods, which in many instances lead to scandal. In this connection we may naturally consider the subject of ecstasy.

*Ekstasen des Menschen.* MANTEGAZZA. Jena, 1888, pp. 461.

Ecstasy is defined as a worship, a giving up of the will to the dominance of an emotion; but that emotion should be of an elevating sort. Examples are: the different sorts of love and friendship, patriotism, self-sacrifice, religious vision, contemplation and prayer; esthetic raptures in relation to music, color, symmetry, etc; the intellectual ecstasies, as displayed in eloquence, action, pursuit of truth, science or philosophy, and in mental creation. The ecstasies of animals are connected with sexual reproduction; the love songs and love bowers may also be referred to. Among children is found the ecstasy of play and motion which may be termed "muscle drunkenness." Home sickness, joy, love of solitude or of society are brought under the categories of ecstasies. Friendship is a "Luxusgefühl." Love is a necessity growing out of the union of parts needful to form a complete man. The soul is sexed as well as the body, and soul union may be felt in which the slightest bodily contact (even a kiss) would be felt to be earthly. The work is poetic and beautiful as a literary production, but hardly as valuable as his anthropological studies. The same author's "Hygiene der Liebe" and "Physiologie der Liebe" are not the equals of the "Ekstasen," neither from a scientific nor from a literary standpoint. The effects of ecstasy when excessive are injurious to health. Among abnormal ecstasies is to be classed that artificially produced, which in its lowest phases is presented as alcoholism, morphinism, etc.

These phenomena have important bearings on many of the problems of sex which we cannot now stop to point out. The craving for stimulants has very evident analogies with the impulses accompanying perversions of the sexual instinct, of which a word:

As in its normal development love between the sexes is the most charming and universally attractive of human emotions, so in its perversions it is the most disgusting and repellant. The abnormalities have received a certain amount of attention from alienists, but the amount of information as to normal action which the study of these states can yet furnish is insufficient to justify a detailed consideration of them here. Those desiring to pursue the subject further may be referred to the following:

*De l'inversion de l'instinct sexuel.* CHEVALIER. Paris, 1885.

*Die krankhaften Erscheinungen des Geschlechtssinnes.* TARNOWSKI. Berlin, 1886.

*Physiologie de l'amour.* GLEY.

*Le fétichisme dans l'amour.* BINET. In his *Études psychologie expérimentale*. Paris, 1888.

*Psychopathia sexualis.* KRAFFT-EBING. Stuttgart, 1887.